

each element] located as opposed to the outer surface of each element and extending through the container wall in communication with the gap and the outside of the container wall.

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Claim 2 (Amended). A permselective membrane module comprising i) two permselective membrane elements formed of hollow fibers arranged substantially in parallel and bundled together and ii) a container, the two elements being arranged in the container longitudinally of the hollow fibers,

wherein the respective elements comprise i) a feed tube disposed longitudinally of the hollow fibers and ii) a hollow fiber bundle covering the outer surface of the feed tube, the feed tube having a number of holes therein, and the hollow fibers having one end closed and the other end opened,

wherein the feed tubes of the two elements have one end opened and the other end closed, and

wherein the container comprises i) an inner wall surrounding the two elements with a space, ii) a feed port provided at one end of the container in communication with the opened end of the feed tube of one of the elements, iii) an inner liquid receiving plate located between the two elements to collect the liquid not permeated through said one elements, iv) a connecting tube for connecting the inner liquid receiving plate with the open end of the feed tube of the other element, v) a permeate-liquid outlet facing the open end of the hollow fibers of each element and extending through the container wall, and [v)] vi) a non-permeated fluid discharge outlet [communicating with the space between the container and the outer surface of the other element] located as opposed to the outer surface of the other element and extending through the container wall in communication with the space and the outside of the container wall.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the subject application, as amended above, is respectfully requested in view of the comments below.

Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to more particularly define the claimed invention. In particular, each of the claims has been amended to define the location of the fluid discharge outlet as opposed to the outer